AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated hereinbelow.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for isolating a double-stranded cDNA having a nucleotide sequence of a complete open reading frame which comprises:

A) admixing

(i) an isolated single-stranded cDNA,

(ii) a first primer capable of forming a stem-loop structure, comprising

(a) at the 3' end of the primer, a first, random, sequence, linked to

(b) a second sequence, linked to

(c) a third sequence which forms a loop structure, linked to

(d) a fourth sequence, at the 5' end of the first primer, which is complementary to the second sequence,

under hybridization conditions sufficient for annealing the first sequence of the first primer to the sequence at the 3' end of the single-stranded cDNA, and

(iii) a polymerase;

B) incubating the mixture from step (A) under suitable conditions for DNA synthesis; and

C) performing a polymerase chain reaction by admixing

(i) an aliquot of the mixture from (B),

(ii) a second primer which specifically binds to the single-stranded cDNA,

(iii) a third primer which comprises

(a) a ~~first~~ sequence identical to the third sequence of the first primer, linked to

(b) a ~~second~~ sequence identical to a portion of the second sequence of the first primer, and

(iv) a polymerase

under conditions suitable for a polymerase chain reaction so as to produce a double-stranded cDNA reaction product, thereby isolating the cDNA having the sequence of the complete open reading frame.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the single-stranded cDNA is a 5' portion of a cDNA reverse transcribed from an mRNA.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first primer has the sequence 3'-NNNNNNNNNNNNCAGAGCTCAAATTTGTGATCAGCTGGTCTTTCACAAATTTGAGCTCTG-5' (D-SLAP; SEQ ID NO:30).

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first primer has the sequence 3'-NNNNNNNNNGGGAGAGCTCACAGCTGAAGCAGCTGACTAGCACCTAGTGTAGAATACATCTTGAGCTAT-5' (D-CLAP1; SEQ ID NO:31).

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first primer has the sequence 3'-NNNNNNNNNNNNNAGAGCTCACAGCTGAAGCAGCTGACTAGCACCTAGTGTAGAATACATCTTGAGCTAT-5' (D-CLAP2; SEQ ID NO:32).

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first primer comprises an inosine nucleotide.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the loop structure is a hairpin-like loop structure, or a cloverleaf loop structure comprising more than one hairpin-like loop structure.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) A method for isolating a double-stranded cDNA having a nucleotide sequence of a complete open reading frame which comprises:

A) admixing

(i) a biological sample containing mRNA comprising a polyA sequence,

(ii) a first primer which forms a stem-loop structure, comprising:

(a) a poly-T sequence at the 3' end of the primer linked to

(b) a first$_1$ random$_1$ sequence, linked to

(c) a second sequence which forms a loop structure, linked to

(c) a third sequence at the 5' end of the primer which is complementary to the first sequence, and

(iii) a reverse transcriptase,

under hybridization conditions sufficient for annealing the primer to the mRNA poly-A sequence;

B) incubating the mixture from step (A) under suitable conditions for reverse transcription;

C) performing a polymerase chain reaction with an aliquot of the mixture from step (B) using a second, gene-specific, primer which is pre-defined and a third primer, which has a sequence identical to at least a portion of the first primer sequence, thereby isolating the cDNA having the sequence of the complete open reading frame.

17. (Previously presented)The method of claim 16, wherein the primer has the sequence 3'-TTTTTTTTTTTTCAGAGCTCAAATTTGTGATCAGCTGGTCTTTCACAAATTTGAGCTCTG-5' (T-SLAP; SEQ ID NO:33).